

<b>Activity:</b>	<b>General Management Planning</b>
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**Activity Summary**

Program Component	FY 2005 Enacted	FY 2006 Estimate	FY 2007			Change From 2006 (+/-)
			Fixed Costs & Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
General Management Plans	7,100	7,550	+95	-461	7,184	-366
Strategic Planning	654	656	+11	0	667	+11
Special Resource Studies	495	501	+6	0	507	+6
Environmental Planning and Compliance	4,879	4,845	+33	0	4,878	+33
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>13,128</b>	<b>13,552</b>	<b>+145</b>	<b>-461</b>	<b>13,236</b>	<b>-316</b>
<i>Total FTE Requirements</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>0</i>

**Mission Overview**

The General Management Planning program supports all NPS goals by providing long-term planning functions to the park and Servicewide levels. More specifically, the components support the following NPS goal categories: preserve park resources; provide for visitor enjoyment; strengthen and preserve natural and cultural resources and enhance recreational opportunities managed by partners; and, organizational effectiveness. The program also supports Department of the Interior goals to protect the Nation's natural, cultural and heritage resources, to provide recreation opportunities for America, and to safeguard lives, property and assets, advance scientific knowledge, and improve the quality of life for communities we serve.

**Activity Overview****General Management Plans**

This program component prepares and maintains up-to-date plans to guide National Park Service actions for the protection, use, development, and management of each park unit. General Management Plans support the Department's strategic plan by defining the desired conditions for watersheds, landscapes, marine and biological resources, cultural resources, and opportunities for quality recreational experiences.

**Strategic Planning**

This program component provides strategic planning supporting Servicewide performance management, Activity Based Costing/Management, and performance budgeting. The component prepares strategic plans to meet the requirements of the Results Act (Government Performance and Results Act of 1993) in coordination with the Department of Interior, Office of Management and Budget, and Congress.

**Special Resources Studies**

This program component conducts studies of alternatives for the protection of areas that may have potential for addition to the National Park System or other designations.

**Environmental Planning and Compliance**

This program component completes environmental impact statements for special projects.

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**Activity:** General Management Planning  
**Program Component:** General Management Plans

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### Justification of 2007 Program Changes

The 2007 budget request for the General Management Plans program is \$7.184 million, a program change of \$0.461 million from the 2006 level.

#### **Reduce Support for General Management Plans: -\$0.461 million**

Congress provided an add-on for General Management Planning for selected studies in FY 2006. This one-time funding is unnecessary in FY 2007 and will be redirected toward higher priorities. Program Performance Change: Because the one time funding need has been met, this funding change should not directly impact NPS performance goals.

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### FY 2007 Program Overview and Planned Performance

The General Management Planning (GMP) program component provides a coordinated oversight and support function to help parks complete general management plans. Through documentation and guidance, the GMP program provides background information to parks completing GMPs. The program provides staff assistance in the form of interdisciplinary teams which complete the research, analysis, and documentation of the GMP planning process.

The National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 directs the NPS to prepare and revise in a timely manner "General Management Plans for the preservation and use of each unit of the National Park System." GMPs establish specific goals and objectives, a basic philosophy for management, and strategies for resolving major issues related to park purposes as defined by Congress. GMPs are required by law to include:

1. Measures for preservation of the area's resources.
2. Indications of the type and general intensity of development including visitor circulation and transportation patterns along with locations, timing, and anticipated costs.
3. Identification of visitor carrying capacities.
4. Indications of potential modifications to the external boundaries of the unit.

General management plans provide the basic guidance for how the park will carry out responsibilities for the protection of park resources unimpaired for future generations while providing for appropriate visitor use and enjoyment. The GMP also provides a framework for coordinating interpretive programs, maintenance, facility development, and resource management to promote efficient operations. Priorities for funding general management planning projects are determined by an evaluation of issues confronting the parks and statutory requirements for recently authorized additions to the National Park System. In FY 2007, a system based on the Choosing By Advantages methodology will continue to be used to determine priorities for GMP starts and maintain accountability for completion of projects within estimated budgets.

Plans are prepared by interdisciplinary teams including the park superintendent and staff, landscape architects, community planners, and specialists in natural and cultural resources, environmental design, concessions management, interpretation, public involvement and other fields as needed. Planning work is accomplished by teams from the Denver Service Center, regional offices, and private contractors. The planning process emphasizes Secretary Norton's commitment to the "4C's" by including extensive consultation, communication, and cooperation with the public and State, local, and Tribal officials, to clearly define park purpose and significance, goals and objectives, identify desired future conditions, and evaluate alternatives for conservation. Notices of plan availability are reviewed and cleared by the Department before being published in the Federal Register.

A final, approved planning document is only one obvious result of the planning process. Some other important results of general management planning include public involvement and understanding of park mission and goals, guidance on appropriate treatments for natural and cultural resources, and strategies for managing visitor use. Coordination and cooperation with State and local officials, Tribes, and other agencies, adjacent land managers, property owners, and other potential partners is an especially important result of planning. Plans also evaluate environmental consequences and socioeconomic impacts, estimate differences in costs, and identify phasing for implementation as well as ways to mitigate potential adverse impacts on park resources. In FY 2007, emphasis will continue to be placed on assuring that NPS produces realistic plans that consider life cycle costs, fiscal constraints on the Federal Government, promote partnerships to help accomplish results, and support creative solutions to management challenges that do not necessarily depend on the development of new facilities. Special attention will be given to assuring that assumptions about visitation increases are realistic and that the role of visitor centers is carefully scrutinized in light of costs for development and long term operations.

NPS guidelines indicate that GMPs should be designed for a fifteen to twenty year timeframe. While plans for some units are viable for more than twenty years, many others become obsolete in less than five years. Changes in resource conditions, public use patterns, influences from surrounding areas, and legislated boundaries often come more frequently than expected. Many plans approved in past years envision a level of new development and staffing that is not likely to be realized in the foreseeable future, so these plans need to be revised. As of December 31, 2005, more than 200 parks lacked a GMP or have one that is more than fifteen years old and overdue to be replaced or substantially revised. The GMP program also supports management planning for units of the National Trails System, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Affiliated Areas and other special projects where Congress has directed the NPS to prepare a management plan in cooperation with others.

A small portion of the program will continue to provide a variety of planning services to meet needs defined by parks and their partners without necessarily completing all of the steps in a traditional GMP. GMPs are not intended to provide specifications for facility design. They do evaluate the general character and intensity of development needed to meet visitor needs and protect park resources. Linkages between general management planning and other strategic and operational planning in the NPS also will continue to be improved. Planning at various levels of detail will help support the performance management system developed to meet requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act.

#### **Anticipated FY 2007 General Management Planning Work \***

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|---|---|
| • Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS, Kentucky      | • Hopewell Furnace NHS, Pennsylvania              |
| • Acadia NP, Maine                              | • Hovenweep NM, Colorado                          |
| • Agate Fossil Beds NM, Nebraska**              | • Jean Lafitte NHP & Pres, Louisiana              |
| • Ala Kahakai NHT, Hawaii                       | • John Day Fossil Beds NM, Oregon                 |
| • Alibates Flint Quarries NM, Texas, New Mexico | • John Fitzgerald Kennedy NHS, Massachusetts**    |
| • Amistad NRA, Texas                            | • Johnstown Flood NMem, Pennsylvania**            |
| • Anacostia Park, District of Columbia          | • Kings Canyon NP, California                     |
| • Apostle Islands NL, Wisconsin                 | • Kings Mountain NMP, South Carolina**            |
| • Appomattox Courthouse NHP, Virginia           | • Knife River Indian Villages NHS, North Dakota** |
| • Aztec Ruins, NM, New Mexico                   | • Kobuk Valley NP, Alaska**                       |
| • Badlands NP, South Dakota                     | • Lake Mead NRA, Arizona & Nevada                 |
| • Bering Land Bridge NPres, Alaska**            | • Lake Meredith NRA, Texas                        |
| • Big Cypress NPres, Florida                    | • Lava Beds NM, California**                      |
| • Big Hole NB, Montana                          | • Lincoln Boyhood NM, Indiana                     |
| • Big Thicket NPres, Texas                      | • Gulf Islands NS, Florida                        |
| • Biscayne NP, Florida                          | • Guadalupe Mountains NP, Texas                   |
| • Blue Ridge Parkway, North Carolina            | • Harpers Ferry NHP, West Virginia                |
| • Boston African American NHS, Massachusetts    | • Hampton NHS, Maryland                           |
| • Bryce Canyon NP, Utah**                       | • Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt NHS, New York     |
| • Buck Island Reef NM, Virgin Islands           | • Lincoln Home NHS, Illinois                      |
| • Buffalo NR, Arkansas**                        | • Little River Canyon NPres, Alabama              |
| • Canaveral NS, Florida                         | • Manassas NB Park, Virginia                      |
| • Canyon de Chelly NM, Arizona                  | • Martin Van Buren NHS, New York**                |
| • Cape Krusenstern NM, Alaska**                 | • Minidoka Internment NM, Idaho                   |

- Capulin Volcano NM, New Mexico
- Castillo San Marcos NM, Florida
- Catoctin Mountain Park, Maryland\*\*
- Cedar Creek & Belle Grove NHP, Virginia
- Channel Islands NP, California
- Chattahoochee River NRA, Georgia
- Chesapeake & Ohio Canal NHP, Maryland
- Chickamauga & Chattanooga NMP, Georgia & Tennessee
- Chickasaw NRA, Oklahoma
- City of Rocks NRes, Idaho\*\*
- Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia
- Cumberland Gap NHP, Kentucky, Tennessee & Virginia
- Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP, Ohio
- Denali NP, Alaska
- Ebey's Landing NHP, Washington
- Effigy Mounds, Iowa
- El Camino Real de los Tejas, Texas & Louisiana
- Everglades NP, Florida
- Fire Island NS, New York\*\*
- Flight 93 NMem, Pennsylvania
- Fort Frederica NM, Georgia
- Fort Matanzas NMem, Florida
- Fort Point NHS, California
- Fort Pulaski NMem, Georgia
- Fort Raleigh NHS, North Carolina
- Fort Stanwix NM, New York
- Frederick Law Olmsted NHS\*\*
- Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial NMP, Virginia
- Gates of the Arctic NPres, Alaska
- George Washington Birthplace NM, Virginia
- Gila Cliff Dwellings NM, New Mexico\*\*
- Glacier Bay NP&Pres, Alaska
- Golden Gate NRA, California
- Governors Island NM, New York
- Grand Teton NP, Wyoming\*\*
- Great Sand Dunes NP, Colorado
- Great Smoky Mountains NP, North Carolina
- Minuteman Missile NHS, South Dakota
- Minute Man NHP, Massachusetts
- Monocacy NB, Maryland
- Montezuma Castle NM, Arizona
- Muir Woods NM, California
- New River Gorge NR, West Virginia
- Niobrara NSR, Nebraska & South Dakota
- Noatak NPres, Alaska\*\*
- Old Spanish Trail NHT, Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada & Utah
- Olympic NP, Washington
- Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Missouri
- Padre Island NS, Texas
- Parashant NM, Nevada
- Pea Ridge NMP, Arkansas
- Pinnacles NM, California\*\*
- Pipestone NM, Minnesota
- Point Reyes NS, California
- Rock Creek Park, District of Columbia
- Rosie the Riveter WWII Homefront NHP, California
- Ross Lake NRA, Washington\*\*
- Sagamore Hill NHS, New York
- Saguaro NP, Arizona
- San Juan Island NHP, Washington
- Sequoia NP, California
- Sleeping Bear Dunes NL, Michigan\*\*
- Springfield Armory NHS, Massachusetts\*\*
- Statue of Liberty NM, New York, New Jersey
- Tuzigoot NMem, Arizona
- Tuskegee Airmen NHS, Alabama
- Valley Forge NHP, Pennsylvania
- Vanderbilt Mansion NHS, New York
- Virgin Islands Coral Reef NM, Virgin Islands
- Virgin Islands NP, Virgin Islands
- Walnut Canyon NM, Arizona
- Wilson's Creek NB, Missouri
- Wekiva Wild and Scenic River, Florida
- Women's Rights NHP, New York\*\*
- Wrangell-St. Elias NP&Pres, Alaska
- Yucca House NM, Colorado

\* This list is subject to change in response to requests to accelerate or delay schedules to better coordinate with partners, available staff or contractors, and other agencies.

\*\* Potential New Starts

## **FY 2006 Planned Program Performance**

GMP's for 24 units are expected to be complete with respect to their funding needs although some additional months may be required to have final records of decision signed. Following is a list of general management planning projects where FY 2006 is the last year that funds will be required. If records of decision are not final in FY 2006 they are expected to follow early in FY 2007.

In FY 2006, thirteen projects in line to begin on the Servicewide priority list are being deferred so that available funds could be directed to completing planning projects already underway.

**Use of Cost and Performance information:** In 2005, a system of post-project evaluations was initiated to determine what measurable goals were being achieved in each completed planning project. This system includes interviews with park managers, staff and partners to identify crucial results and opportunities for process improvements. These post project evaluations will continue in 2006 to provide information on additional opportunities to improve productivity in the program.

Updated planning program training and guidance are scheduled to be implemented in 2006 as part of continuing efforts to streamline the planning function and improve services to parks and the public.

**General Management Plans Scheduled for Completion of Funding in FY 2006\***

- Acadia NP (Schoodic Unit), Maine
- Amistad NRA, Texas
- Aztec Ruins NM, New Mexico
- Appomattox Courthouse NHP, Virginia
- Badlands NP, South Dakota
- Boston African American NHS, Massachusetts
- Fallen Timbers Battlefield, Ohio
- First Ladies NHS, Ohio
- Flight 93 NM, Pennsylvania
- Guadalupe Mountains NP, Texas
- Great Sand Dunes NM&Pres, Colorado
- Kings Canyon NP, California
- Lincoln Boyhood NMem, Indiana
- Lower East Side Tenement NHS, New York
- Manassas NBP, Virginia
- Minidoka Internment NM, Idaho
- Minuteman Missile NHS, South Dakota
- Monocacy NB, Maryland
- Sagamore Hill NHS, New York
- Padre Island NS, Texas
- Pea Ridge NMP, Arkansas
- Pipestone National Monument
- Sequoia NP, California
- Valley Forge NHP, Pennsylvania

\* This list is subject to change in response to requests to accelerate or delay schedules to better coordinate with partners, available staff or contractors, and other agencies.

**FY 2005 Program Performance Accomplishments**

A system of post-project evaluations was initiated to determine what measurable goals were being achieved in each completed planning project. This system includes interviews with park managers, staff and partners to identify crucial results and opportunities for process improvements.

One of the most important measures of program accomplishment is the success in engaging the public and interested organizations in the National Park Service's decision processes. In FY 2005, for example, a sample of 41 ongoing planning projects produced 21,450 newsletters and nearly 5,000 draft plans and other documents that were circulated to the public. These planning projects also held 41 public meetings, and over 100 other consultation meetings with many local, State and Federal agencies and organizations. The success of planning projects does not come simply from having a signed document—it's also the stewardship and partnership that occur when we communicate and coordinate with the public and our agency partners to plan for the future of our National Park System.

As in past years, the rate of plan completion in FY 2005 was not as high as targeted primarily because of competing commitments for limited staff in parks and support offices, and new steps required to complete environmental or other compliance documents. Many target dates were delayed by requests for additional opportunities for public comment. The time and cost to complete GMP's often reflects factors beyond the immediate control of the NPS such as the increased demands for extended consultation with a wide variety of interested individuals and organizations, coordination with State and local governments, tribal governments, and other Federal agencies.

The following General Management Plans were approved in FY 2005:

- Big South Fork NR&RA, Tennessee
- Boston Harbor Islands NRA, Massachusetts
- Colorado NM, Colorado
- Crater Lake NP, Oregon
- Craters of the Moon NM&Pres, Idaho
- Petersburg NB, Virginia
- Rio Grande W&S River

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**Activity:** General Management Planning  
**Program Component:** Strategic Planning

### **Justification of 2007 Program Changes**

The 2007 budget request for the Strategic Planning program is \$667,000; with no program changes for FY 2007.

### **FY 2007 Program Overview and Planned Performance**

The Strategic Planning program component implements the Departmental Strategic Plan through the development and implementation of a compatible NPS Strategic Plan. The NPS strategic plan provides guidance for parks and programs in developing their own long-term plans. The Strategic Planning component supports Servicewide performance management, oversees goal and performance measure development, on-going performance measurement, verification and validation of performance data, analysis of work activities, integration of performance and budgeting, coordination with Departmental planning efforts, and Activity Based Costing/Management (ABC/M). Key areas include assistance to NPS management in developing strategic plans and managing performance at the national and local levels.

The Service's multi-year strategic planning function ensures that the NPS and its leadership have a focused, systematic approach to developing long-term strategies and the continuous organizational development needed to address changing social, political, economic, and demographic realities. A major responsibility for this program is ongoing coordination of Servicewide implementation of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993. The Department of the Interior's "One" Strategic Plan incorporates outcome measures, intermediate outcomes and outputs from all bureaus. The NPS Strategic Plan cross-walks from the Department's identified measures to NPS specific goals, performance measures, and ABC/M activities. Servicewide information and guidance for a field-oriented process of Results Act implementation and performance/budget integration is provided through a comprehensive network of goal groups, Servicewide goal contacts, regional goal contacts, regional performance management coordinators, and park coordinators. The network is guided by the Office of Strategic Planning.

### **FY 2007 Planned Program Performance**

During FY 2007 the program's work will include performance management implementation through

- Ongoing coordination with the Department on the update of the Departmentwide strategic plan to extend it out to 2012.
- Ongoing work with the Department and NPS Budget Office on integration of performance and budget through ABC/M.
- Preparation and/or revision of Servicewide Fiscal Year Annual Performance Plans for FY 2008 to serve as a basis for the budget formulation process.
- Preparation of Servicewide Annual Performance Report for FY 2006 and FY 2007.
- Extensive coordination on development and refinement of Servicewide goals in coordination with the revised Departmental strategic plan, development of strategies to achieve new and revised goals, identification of external factors affecting goal achievement, data refinement, verification and validation, and program evaluations.
- Extensive coordination with Regional coordinators and goal contacts and support to park and programs in their ongoing implementation of performance management and supporting training of park staffs.
- Ongoing refinement and expansion of the Servicewide Performance Management Data System (PMDS), used to track performance goals and accomplishments, to match strategic plan updates.
- Ongoing development and refinement of the Servicewide Activity Based Cost/Management (ABC/M) processes, used to track dollars to performance.
- Extensive required performance data analysis and evaluation, and performance data verification and validation necessitated by performance management and performance and budget integration.

- Ongoing refinement of communication with operations, information systems, budget formulation and financial reporting systems, planning, and personnel.

### **FY 2006 Planned Program Performance**

During FY 2006 the program's work will include performance management implementation through

- Ongoing coordination of the *National Park Service Strategic Plan* implementation and coordination with the Department.
- Preparation and/or revision of Servicewide Fiscal Year Annual Performance Plans for FY 2007 that parallel the budget formulation process.
- Work with the NPS Budget Office on integration of performance and budget through ABC/M.
- Preparation of Servicewide Annual Performance Report for FY 2005 and FY 2005.
- Extensive coordination on development and refinement of Servicewide goals, development of strategies to achieve goals, identification of external factors affecting goal achievement, data refinement, verification and validation, and program evaluations.
- Ongoing Servicewide training for performance management and Results Act implementation.
- Extensive coordination with Regional coordinators and goal contacts and support to park and programs in their implementation of performance management and supporting extensive training of park staffs.
- Ongoing refinement and expansion of Servicewide Performance Management Data System (PMDS), which is used to track performance goals and accomplishments.
- Extensive performance data analysis and evaluation, and performance data verification and validation.
- Ongoing refinement of linkages with operations, information systems, budget formulation and financial reporting systems, planning, and personnel.

### **FY 2005 Program Performance Accomplishments**

Annual performance plans are produced in conjunction with each fiscal year budget cycle. Work in FY 2005 for performance management implementation included:

- Ongoing coordination of the *National Park Service Strategic Plan* implementation.
- Preparation and revision of Servicewide Fiscal Year Annual Performance Plans to parallel the budget formulation process.
- Work with the NPS Budget Office on integration of performance and budget through ABC/M.
- Preparation of Servicewide Annual Performance Report for FY 2004.
- Departmental strategic plan and NPS Annual Performance Plans updated and reports completed.
- Coordinated with Servicewide programs and regional coordinators on development and refinement of Servicewide goals, developed strategies to achieve goals, identified external factors affecting goal achievement, refined data, verified and validated data, and assisted program evaluations.
- Provided Servicewide training for performance management and Results Act implementation.
- Coordinated a Servicewide network of regional performance management coordinators and goal contacts to support park and programs with their implementation of performance management and the delivery of field-based training.
- Refined Servicewide Performance Management Data System (PMDS), which is used to track performance goals and accomplishments.
- Began simplifying the NPS performance management process.
- Provided extensive performance data analysis and evaluation, and performance data verification and validation.
- Continued to refine coordination with operations, information systems, budget formulation and financial reporting systems, planning, and personnel.

**Activity:** General Management Planning  
**Program Component:** Special Resources Studies

### Justification of 2007 Program Changes

The 2007 budget request for Special Resource Studies is \$507,000; with no program changes for FY 2007.

### FY 2007 Program Overview and Planned Performance

The Special Resource Studies program component evaluates potential national park or affiliated sites through information gathering and analysis. This enables consistent use of criteria in evaluating potential sites, and to report clear findings to Congress.

As directed by Congress (16 U.S.C. 1a-5), the National Park Service monitors resources that exhibit qualities of national significance, and conducts studies where specifically authorized, to determine if areas have potential for inclusion in the National Park System. Special Resource Studies collect information about candidate areas to determine if they meet established criteria for significance, suitability, and feasibility as potential additions to the National Park System. These studies also evaluate alternative concepts for protection by others outside of the National Park System. The primary purposes of the study program are to provide information for Congress in evaluating the quality of potential new park units, and to encourage the protection of important resources in ways that will not impose undue pressure on the limited fiscal resources available for existing NPS units.

Available funds will be directed to completing previously authorized studies rather than any new projects. NPS expects that additional analysis of life cycle costs and environmental consequences will identify the potential costs of adding new units to the NPS.

The Department intends to focus its attention and resources on taking care of existing responsibilities, such as addressing facility maintenance needs, rather than continuing the rapid expansion of new NPS responsibilities. The Department does not expect to submit a list of proposed authorizations for any new studies or new park units along with the budget submission as envisioned by Public Law 105-391, so that progress can be made in completing the projects currently underway and previously authorized.

#### Anticipated Ongoing Studies in FY 2007

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • African American Themes, Nationwide                           | • Miami Circle, Florida                   |
| • Angel Island, California                                      | • Muscle Shoals Heritage, Alabama         |
| • Buffalo Bayou Heritage, Texas                                 | • Niagara Falls Heritage, New York        |
| • Coltsville, Connecticut                                       | • San Gabriel River Watershed, California |
| • Golden Spike Heritage, Utah                                   | • Virginia Key Beach, Florida             |
| • Harriet Tubman Sites, New York & Maryland                     | • Waco Mammoth Site, Texas                |
| • Manhattan Project Sites, New Mexico, Tennessee and Washington |   |

### FY 2006 Planned Program Performance

In FY 2006, the NPS has 17 studies in progress supported by this program including 4 studies of potential heritage areas and 13 studies involving potential new park units. 13 of the studies are anticipated to continue into FY 2007. The four planned for completion in FY 2006 are:

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| • Bainbridge Island/Japanese Memorial, Washington | • Fort Hunter Liggett, California           |
| • Fort King, Florida                              | • Great Falls Historic District, New Jersey |

### FY 2005 Program Performance Accomplishments

In FY 2005 the Department of the Interior transmitted 2 completed special resource studies to Congress. Over the past 20 years only about one in every four or five studies finds that an area is eligible for inclusion



in the National Park System. Between 2004 and 2005 only one of the six studies NPS forwarded to Congress found the area eligible for designation as an affiliated unit of the National Park System. The special resource study program has included many projects directed by Congress where the NPS and the community have agreed that existing programs of technical or financial assistance are preferable to the establishment of a new park with long-term management responsibilities and major funding commitments for the NPS. Experience to date has indicated that adequately prepared studies help defend the integrity of the park system against expansions into areas that fail to meet established standards, while allowing for a few carefully selected new units that are of outstanding importance to the nation.

The following Studies were transmitted to Congress in FY 2005:

- Kate Mullaney House, New York
- Lincoln Highway, Multi-States

The following studies received their final funding allotments in FY 2005 or prior years and are being completed or are in the transmittal process.

- Chesapeake Bay Sites, Maryland and Virginia
- Civil Rights Sites, Multi State
- Low Country Gullah Culture, South Carolina, Florida and Georgia
- Robert Moton High School, Virginia
- Star-Spangled Banner Trail, New Jersey & Maryland
- Vicksburg Campaign Trail, Multi State
- World War II Home Front

Public Law 105-391, enacted on November 13, 1998, updated the process for considering new additions to the National Park System. Each new study proposal is required to be forwarded to Congress and specifically authorized. The study program in 2005 and in 2006 will focus on completing projects previously directed by Congress to evaluate important resources and find ways to protect them that do not necessarily involve Federal land acquisition or long-term commitments for management and operations by the NPS. These studies will place an increased emphasis on examining the full life-cycle operation and maintenance costs that would result from a newly created or expanded park unit or some other NPS funding responsibility.

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**Activity:** General Management Planning  
**Program Component:** Environmental Impact Planning and Compliance

### **Justification of 2007 Program Changes**

The 2007 budget request for Environmental Impact Planning and Compliance is \$4.878 million, with no program changes for FY 2007.

### **FY 2007 Overview and Planned Performance**

The Environmental Impact Planning and Compliance program component supports parks, regions, and WASO offices in the process of completing Environmental Impact Statements (EISs), Environmental Assessments (EAs), and other compliance actions related to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These planning and compliance actions relate to major management decisions (e.g., General Management Plan) and thorough completion helps ensure appropriate stewardship of natural and cultural resources.

The National Park Omnibus Management Act of 1998 and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) require park management decisions to be based on a full examination of alternatives and impacts and opportunities for public involvement. This program enhances the National Park Service's ability to prepare environmental impact statements and fulfill other environmental planning and evaluations required by law. The FY 2007 level requested for this program would be used to respond to an increasing number of court or legislatively mandated environmental documents to support sound resource based decisions. Funding would also be utilized to support technically proficient project leaders to work with park based specialists in preparing complex documents, facilitate public and agency reviews, and help ensure that decisions are legally and environmentally sustainable. Anticipated results would include better conditions for park resources, improved quality of visitor experiences, decisions that are upheld in court, and reduced costs for projects conducted under court mandated schedules.

### **Projected Ongoing Impact Analysis:**

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| • Bandelier NP - Ecosystem Restoration Plan                                 | • Wind Cave NP - Chronic Wasting Disease                               |
| • Benefits Sharing Implementation, NPS-Wide Programmatic Statement          | • Olympic NP - Reintroduction of Fisher                                |
| • Catocin Mountain Park - Deer Management                                   | • Great Smoky Mountains NP – Elkmont EIS                               |
| • Grand Teton NP - Bison/Elk Management                                     | • Mesa Verde NP – Fire Management EIS                                  |
| • Indiana Dunes NL - White-tailed Deer Management                           | • Yellowstone NP - Winter Use Plan, EIS                                |
| • North Cascades NP - Fishery Management EIS                                | • Grand Teton NP - Winter Use Plan, EIS                                |
| • Cape Lookout NS – Complete Court Mandated EA/EIS for Cape Lookout Village | • Wind Cave NP - Elk Management Plan, EIS                              |
| • Cape Cod NS - Complete Court Ordered EIS for Hunting                      | • Theodore Roosevelt NP - Elk Management EIS                           |
| • Golden Gate NRA – Pet Management, Public Use Plan and Regulation          | • Cuyahoga Valley NP - Deer Management Plan                            |
| • Big South Fork NRA – Oil and Gas Management Plan/EIS                      | • Rock Creek Park - Telecommunications Plan EIS (Court Ordered)        |
| • Cape Lookout - OHV (off-highway vehicle) Management Plan                  | • South Florida and Caribbean Parks - Exotic Plant Management Plan EIS |
|   | • Cape Hatteras NS-Oregon Inlet Management Plan EIS                    |
|   | • Glacier Bay NP - Vessel Management Plan                              |
|   | • Cape Hatteras - OHV Management Plan                                  |

### **FY 2006 Planned Program Performance**

During FY 2006, this program will provide for preparation of environmental analysis for decisions on actions and projects that do not fit within the normal scope of the construction program or the general management-planning program. For example, previous issues evaluated include management decisions on trail planning, wildlife population and control measures in eastern parks, planning for land exchanges with local governments, providing for cooperative land use planning and management with local governments, providing urgent planning and compliance. This funding allows the requisite planning and

environmental evaluation to address those issues whose cost exceed the normal capability of park operating base funds so that decisions can be reached and implemented. Since park base funding normally does not anticipate preparation of complex environmental documents, decisions on important resource management or other issues are delayed or deferred, resulting in a decision backlog which may compound resource damage or result in inadequate public participation. The Service also intends to complete additional guidelines for efficiently conducting environmental analyses for general management plans, federal highway projects, and NPS partnership projects funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. In addition to the continuation of a number of projects begun in FY 2005, the new projects for FY 2006 include:

**FY 2006 Planned New Starts:**

Valley Forge NHP - Deer Management Plan  
Rock Creek Park - Deer Management EIS  
Rock Creek Park - Cell Tower Assessment

**FY 2005 Program Performance Accomplishments**

Per court settlement with Bluewater Network, environmental analyses are underway, under the Environmental Quality Division leadership and contracts, for 15 parks. The Lake Mead NRA Lake Management Plan was completed proposing personal watercraft use to continue as was the personal watercraft plan for Glen Canyon NRA; Lake Roosevelt NRA; Lake Meredith NRA; Chickasaw NRA; and Amistad NRA. Projects have been initiated with funding to seek public input and complete environmental analyses for ecosystem restoration of landscapes and habitat at Bandelier NM; management of mountain lakes fisheries at North Cascades NP and Recreation Complex; exotic vegetation species management for South Florida and Caribbean Parks; and deer management at Indiana Dunes NL. An integrated system to relate funding, planning, compliance and public comment has been developed, implemented and in use for all NPS projects (Planning, Environment and Public Comment). This will assure better coordination and timely completion of compliance through use of one web-based system. In addition, the following projects were undertaken or completed:

- Capitol Reef NP - Burr Trail Study
- Economic Studies - Snowmobiling
- George Washington Memorial Parkway - Trail Extension
- Glacier Bay NP&Pres - Falls Creek EIS
- Glacier Bay NP&Pres - Vessel Management EIS
- Grand Teton NP - Jackson Bison/Elk Management EIS
- Grand Teton NP - Winter Use Plan/EIS
- Personal Water Craft Environment Documents
- Yellowstone NP - Bison EIS
- Yellowstone NP - Winter Use Plan/EIS
- Curecanti NRA – Management Plan EA for Sand and Gravel Operations
- Cape Hatteras NS - Oregon Inlet Dredging
- Cuyahoga Valley NRA - Deer Management
- South Florida and Caribbean Parks - Exotic Plant Management Impact Assessment
- Fire Island NS - Erosion Management/Beach Preservation
- Great Smoky Mountains NP - Cades Cove EIS
- Lake Mead NRA - Emergency Low Water Activities
- Midwest Parks - Exotic Plant Management Impact Assessment
- Theodore Roosevelt NP - Elk Management Plan
- Wind Cave NP - Elk Management Plan
- Cape Hatteras NS - OHV Management Plan
- Cape Lookout NS - OHV Management Plan